

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 06265 090650Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 EB-08 INR-10 /043 W
-----009575 090658Z /16

P R 090626Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC 4009
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 6265

USICA

USICA FOR PGM/PPF, STATE FOR EA/ANZ

CINCPAC FOR USICA ADVISOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: CRITICISM OF THE SOVIET UNION

TWO PROMINENT LEFT-WING UNION OFFICIALS HAVE PUBLICLY
EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE QUALITY OF LIFE THAT EXISTS
IN THE SOVIET UNION.

VICTORIAN UNION OFFICIAL, BILL HARTLEY, A LEADING LIGHT
IN THE SOCIALIST LEFT FACTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR
PARTY OF VICTORIA EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT LIFE
IN THE SOVIET UNION ON A NATIONAL ABC RADIO INTERVIEW.
HARTLEY IS ALSO WELL-KNOWN FOR HIS SYMPATHETIC POSITION
FOR THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.
IN SYDNEY, MR. JOHN HALFPENNY THE MOST PROMINENT MEMBER OF
THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN AUSTRALIA AND VICTORIAN
SECRETARY OF THE AMALGAMATED METAL WORKERS AND
SHIPWRIGHTS' UNION TOLD THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD (8/8/78)
HOW HE AND HIS WIFE WERE HELD BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS FOR TWO
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CANBER 06265 090650Z

HOURS DURING A RECENT VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION. HALFPENNY SAID
THAT THE OFFICIALS CONFISCATED SOME DOCUMENTS FROM HIM AND WAS
INTERROGATED THREE TIMES AT MOSCOW AIRPORT BY
OFFICIALS, ONE OF WHOM HE BELIEVED TO BE A KGB OFFICER.
HALFPENNY EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD MET WITH SOME
DISSIDENTS DURING THE COURSE OF HIS VISIT TO THE SOVIET
UNION BUT INDICATED THAT "THERE WAS SOME EVIDENCE THAT

THE DISSIDENTS SCHARANSKY AND GINSBERG HAD
BROKEN RUSSIAN LAW". HALFPENNY QUESTIONED WHETHER
THEIR ACTIONS HAD WARRANTED SUCH SEVERE TREATMENT
AND SENTENCES. ENDUSINFO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL REPRESSION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CANBER06265
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780325-0576
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780884/aaaacshm.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: abf26d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1796840
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CRITICISM OF THE SOVIET UNION TWO PROMINENT LEFT-WING UNION OFFICIALS HAVE PUBLICLY EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE QUALITY OF LIFE THAT EX
TAGS: SOPN, PROP, ELAB, PEPR, AS, UR
To: ICA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/abf26d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014